(b) to what extent the industrial development in backward areas is being fostered; and

(c) whether the policy will be strengthened to encourage industries in backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) With a view to bringing about regional dispersal of industries, Government is operating a Growth Centre Scheme. Under the scheme, the selected centres would be provided with all basic infrastructural facilities at a cost of Rs. 25-30 crores so that these act as focal points of industrialisation. The Scheme is being implemented during the Eighth Five Year Plan. In addition, Government is also operating a Transport Subsidy Scheme for industrialisation of the North Eastern States, Himachal Pradesh, J&K and certain hill districts of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(c) Industrialisation of any area is the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The Central Government supplement their efforts wherever possible.

Sick Public Sector Units

548. MISS. SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick Central Public Sector Units whose cases are pending before the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) at present;

(b) whether Government have received any proposal for the revival of such units; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) BIFR have so far registered 45 sick Central Public Sector Enterprises out of which they have recommended winding up in respect of three public sector units.

Tax concessions to Maruti

549. SHRI CHIMANBHAIMEHTA: SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of tax concessions offered to Maruti in excise, customs and sales tax;

(b) whether Maruti is being favoured on customs duty, if so, how and why; and

(c) what is total out-flow of foreign exchange for imports of Maruti and foreign exchange earning by Maruti?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Maruti has not been given any special concession in respect of excise or sales tax. Government has, however, exempted under Section 25 of the Customs Act, the import duties payable on capital goods being imported for the expansion of Maruti's production capacity, and production of the YE2 car. This exemption was given with the object of promoting exports. Government has announced that such exemption would be available to others also, in similar circumstances.

(c) During 1992-93, Maruti Udyog Limited spent US$ 60.21 million for the import of components, and earned US$ 56.97 million.

Foreign investment proposals cleared by Government

550. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently cleared 22 proposals of foreign direct invest ment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?